

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 06305 161143Z

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FM AMEMABASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 420

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 6305

FOR AF, ASST SECTY MOOSE, AND HA, ASST SECTY DERIAN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, EAID, CG

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 113365

1. HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS IN ZAIRE HAVE BEEN OF CONTINUING CONCERN TO THIS MISSION. WHILE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE MORE OBSERVED TODAY THAN WAS THE CASE DURING THE CHAOS OF THE LATE 60S, THE RECORD OF ZAIRE IS FAR FROM SATISFACTORY. THIS HAS BEEN A FREQUENT TOPIC OF MY CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU AS WELL AS DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MISSION PERSONNEL AT VARIOUS LEVELS AND THEIR GOZ CONTACTS.

2. WE ARE DIRECTING THE USAID PROGRAM SPECIFICALLY TO BENEFIT THE DISADVANTAGED ELEMENTS OF ZAIRIAN SOCIETY, GIVING THEM GREATER FREEDOM OF CHOICE WITH REGARD TO BASIC RIGHTS TO LIFE AND WELL BEING. THE PL-580 TITLE I AGREEMENT BEING NEGOTIATED CARRIES SPECIFIC LANGUAGE CONCERNING THE USE OF THE LOCAL CURRENCY GENERATIONS. THIS LANGUAGE SPECIFIES THAT THE PROCEEDS HE USED TO BENEFIT THE POOR AND LISTS THE ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH THE FUNDS WILL BE EXPENDED. IN ADDITION, USAID HAS WORKED OUT PROCEDURES WITH THE GOZ THAT PROVIDE THE U.S. A JOINT PROGRAMMING ROLE WITH THE GOZ FOR THESE FUNDS AND THE OPTION OF REJECTING ANY PROPOSAL NOT

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PAGE 02 KINSHA 06305 161143Z

MEETING ESTABLISHED CRITERIA.

3. USAID IS ALSO TESTING IMPLEMENTATION METHODS THAT BRING ASSISTANCE MORE DIRECTLY TO THE POOR WITH LESS DEPENDENCE ON CENTRAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCES AND INSTITUTIONS.

4. IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER DONORS, WE ARE SEEKING WAYS OF

MAKING CONTINUED ASSISTANCE CONTINGENT UPON REFORMS, INCLUDING AN IMPROVED GOZ HUMAN RIGHTS PERFORMANCE AND MORE EQUITABLE RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS TO BENEFIT POORER ELEMENTS OF ZAIRIAN SOCIETY.

5. CONTINUING STATEMENTS BY ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN, CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, AND OTHERS ARE EFFECTIVE REINFORCEMENTS FOR OUR EFFORTS TO ELICIT AN IMPROVED GOZ HUMAN RIGHTS PERFORMANCE.

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